

**From:** [Debbie Hickey](#)  
**To:** [DPH.HFSRB.PublicHearings](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Mercy Hospital  
**Date:** Friday, March 19, 2021 3:18:49 PM

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To whom this may concern,

My daughter was the Emergency Room Social Worker at Mercy Hospital and through her I witnessed the passion and dedication by each employee to help this community in need. Through her information and stories I have gained the understanding of the needs in this community and how important Mercy is not only to the Bronzeville area but Chicago in general. At this time, I ask the Review Board to either delay its decision on the exemption application, or deny the application pending future consideration. I support the Chicago Health Equity Coalition's position that all potential buyers must have the opportunity to submit a proposal, and for all proposals to be considered in a fair and transparent. I see the importance for Mercy:

- To be preserved as a full-service public safety-net hospital with a comprehensive Emergency Department, OBGYN, including care for high-risk pregnancies, behavioral health and a primary stroke and cardiac center.
- I support the sale of Mercy to any responsible and invested entity committed to transparency to the community, significant community representation on the board, and preservation of the full extent of Mercy Hospital's mission of health care and education.
- Prior to a sale, I request a clear public plan to restore Mercy to a fully operational teaching hospital.

Thank you,

Debbie Hickey

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